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A method and apparatus that includes processing for recovering data that was transported utilizing multiple data transport protocols, where such processing begins by receiving formatted data and decoding the formatted data in accordance with a second data transport protocol. The decoding recaptures a first formatted data and a first data transport identifier. The processing then continues by decoding the first formatted data in accordance with a first data transport protocol based on the first data transport identifier. For example, if the first data transport protocol is one of the IrDA data transport protocols and the second data transport protocol is the USB data transport protocol, the decoding of the formatted data is to recapture the data that is formatted in accordance with the IrDA protocol, where the first transport identifier includes information that identifies the start of IrDA formatted data and its length. It turn, by decoding the IrDA formatted data, the original data is recaptured.